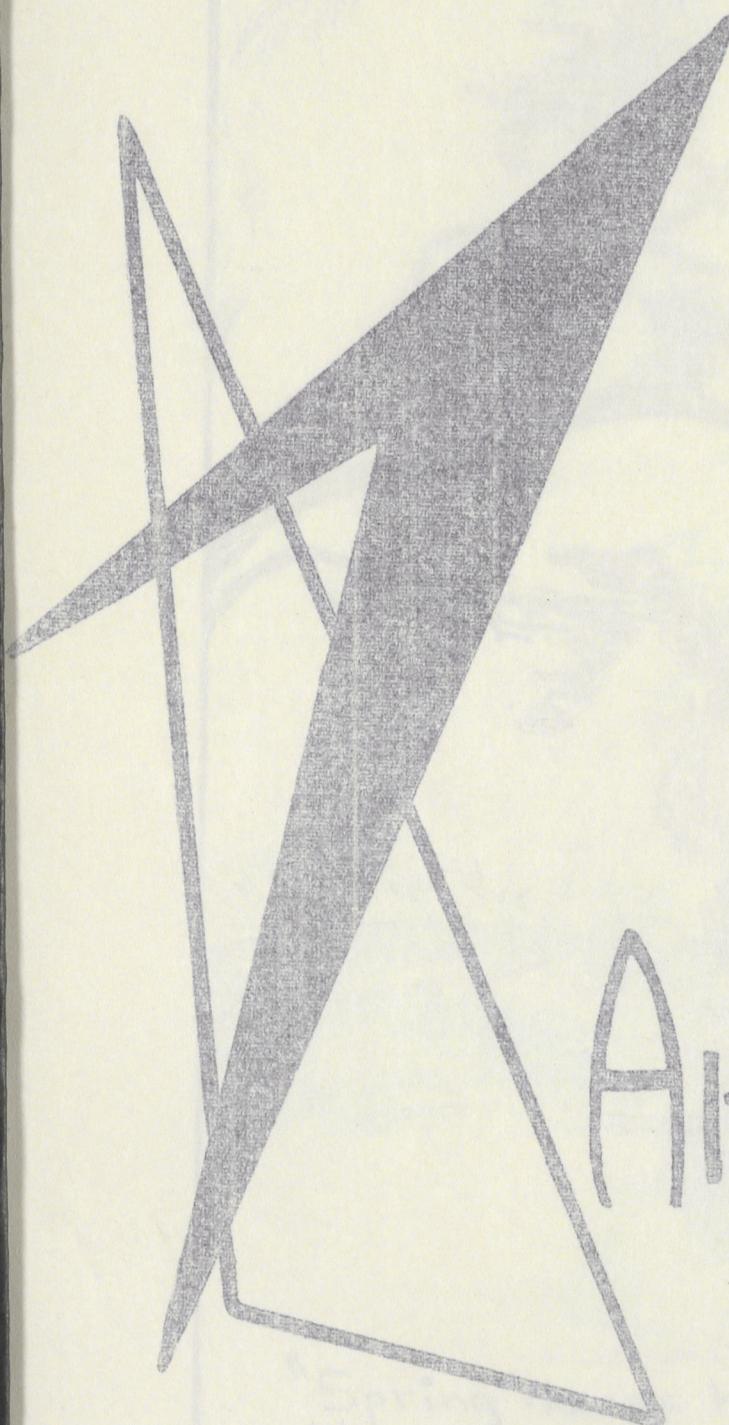


J. GRANT THIESSEN
ALTONA, MANITOBA



Altona Collegian
Spring '62

L. GRANT THIESSEN
ALTON, ILLINOIS



"Spring hangs her infant
blossoms on the trees, rocked in
the cradle of the western breeze."

—Cowper

WILL TO BE UNCOMMON

Sinclair Lewis, distinguished American novelist, has said that "that nation is proudest and noblest and most exalted which has the greatest number of really great men and women."

Herbert Hoover, former President of the United States, sees a great danger confronting his country, and we might add, ours. He says: "We are in danger of developing a cult of the Common Man, which means a religion of mediocrity."

I have seen more mediocrity in my short life than I care to remember. I have seen it in you, the students; I have seen it among parents; I have seen it among my professional colleagues; and--and this is what troubles me most--I have seen it in myself. To be mediocre, something or someone is average, ordinary, commonplace, uninspired, and uninspiring. Mediocrity is deathly stultifying; it kills creativity; it chokes initiative.

With mediocrity comes moroseness--the sickness of the merely existing soul. We become sullen and gloomy and frequently irascible and churlish. Gradually we teach ourselves to despise Life, forgetting in the process that there is no standing still--we must move forward, or indubitably fall back.

Becoming the "great men and women" Lewis speaks of does not demand the I.Q. of a genius. It does require the "will to be uncommon," not uncommonness for its own sake--the pseudo-beatniks have that and are nothing. This "will to be uncommon" means simply this--take what you have and do with it and be with it what you best can. You've tried? I doubt it--at least you, and I, have not tried hard enough. Let your marks in June, students, be uncommonly good. Let your encouragement and help and understanding and living be uncommonly full and rewarding, parents and teachers.

Political forces alien to our own have been as rapidly successful as they have because of the great percentage of uncommon people they embrace. We must be uncommon to meet the challenge--and to be so requires will and determination--not in the kid across the aisle, not in your neighbor on his farm or in his job, but in you and me.

--A. G. Braun

Mr. Braun has been away for some time due to an eye operation. During this time, Mr. J. H. Krieger has substituted)

defeat the purpose of all the planning and counselling which is designed to help the student. Parents should be very concerned about the number of times they excuse their children from classes. These excuses accumulate and eventually are the direct cause of the child's poor achievement due to the fact that too much absenteeism will not allow him to obtain a continuity of presentation. Hence he falls behind the class, receives a partial grasp of the subject matter, or misses out entirely.

Frequently parents do not understand what we are trying to do. In such cases I feel it would be beneficial to come to school and discuss the problems with the staff. If parents buck the school policy and system they will find that eventually the only one that gets hurt is their child. If they understand and co-operate, we all benefit.

It is the duty of the staff to plan and organize a program of academic and extra curricular activities within the framework prescribed by the department of education and the board of trustees. The plan must include an organized daily work schedule as well as a schedule for sports and other activities. Many of these activities may take place outside of school hours. In order for the schedule to be effective it must be observed carefully. It is the duty of the staff to enforce this policy to the benefit of all. It is also up to the staff to teach to the best of their ability under these conditions. This is what they are trained for and this is what they promised to do upon accepting the teaching responsibilities from the province.

The students must realize that in order to reap the full benefit from school they must be willing to accept and adhere to rules and regulations set down by the administration. This involves self discipline. At no time can a student expect to dictate policy nor to receive consideration not available to all. They should know that they must attend regularly and study diligently in order to achieve at a maximum. There is not such a thing as being old enough to be responsible for his actions to no one but himself. When he enrolls he accepts the authority of the school. If this condition can not be met it may be necessary to remove the student from the school, for as soon as the individual will not accept conditions for his own good, the welfare of the other students must be preserved.

The parents, too, have a tremendous responsibility. They should find out all about the school policy, goals and plans. They should know conditions first hand and

be in a position to draw responsible conclusions. This is the purpose behind the explanations for student absenteeism. Here staff and parents work on the same problem. The parents assume the responsibility for their child's absence. The reports build up an accumulative record and form an excellent clue as to the reason for some of the difficulties that the student experiences. The parents should know that irregular attendance harms only their own child, regular attendance, however, allows all to benefit.

The plan of action was drawn to the attention of all students and parents before the school year started. It has been most encouraging to receive the support that parents and students have given us this year. To expect full co-operation and the absence of all problems would be naive. This is not Utopia--as yet there is still room for improvement in all quarters.

To conclude, I wish all the students the best of luck and all they deserve in the June examinations.

--A. Hildebrand, Principal

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Lloyd Penner
Barry Braun
Gerald Gerbrandt
Rose Loeppky
Erna Hiebert

THE LAST SYLLABLE

When, as so-called staff of the Collegian, we look back on the "accomplishments" of the year, we do have one thing to comfort ourselves with--we have tried. Our efforts may have been miserably weak--the paper may merely be something illustrating the fact that "false face must hide what the false heart doth know." It may have been only a convenient tool for hypocrisy and a waste of time and efforts--but one fact remains--we have done our utmost.....?

?????????

Due to circumstances beyond our control the letter entitled "Love those Grade XII's" went unanswered in the last edition.

Some people have a mathematical and reasonable way of approaching matters. Others approach things realistically, as they are, not as they are supposed to be. Schools are not always perfect or "as they were last year"; students are not always intelligent and easily molded; in fact, life itself does not always add up the way Jane Austen or Huckleberry Finn would have it.

Keeping a parallel structure in my composition I would like to propose a problem: Three men, each paying \$10, rent a hotel room for \$30. The manager finds that the room charge was \$25 and immediately sends the \$5 back to the men with a bellboy. The boy, a grade XII graduate, gives each man one dollar and keeps two for himself. Each man now pays \$9; a total of \$27 plus the \$2 the bellboy kept. \$29 is the cost of the room.

I ask all people who are under the impression that life is the sum of a person's abilities and his willingness to follow the broad path made by others--what happened to the other dollar?

Employers seem to agree on the qualifications of a good worker--a person who has developed his capacities to the fullest extent--truly a man outstanding in his field. Looking at this realistically, I agree; a farmer is a good worker.

In conclusion I say hats off to those that can make $27 + 2 = 30$.

--W. Hamm

* * * * *

Some men envelop themselves in such an impenetrable cloak of silence, that the tongue will afford us no symptoms of the mind. Such taciturnity, indeed, is wise if they are fools, but foolish if they are wise; and the only method to form a judgment of these mutes, is narrowly to observe when, where, and how they smile.

Silence is the safest course for any man to adopt who distrusts himself.

--Rochefoucauld

I.S.C.F.

This is our last report about our I.S.C.F. club in the paper for this year. We are nearing the close of the school year and our club meetings will soon come to an end. We have received a blessing in our endeavours to know Christ and to make him known. We have been able to carry on our time of Christian Fellowship only through the leading of God's hand. He has given us the courage and facilities to hold our weekly meetings.

From the time of our last report Hildi Leverton again visited our group and helped in the progress of the planning of our Spring Conference. In the evening at our meeting we had a social which all who attended enjoyed. We have also had out a number of speakers. Lately, Rev. Dennison gave us an inspiring talk about yielding not only a part but our whole life to the service of God. Out of our number of Bible studies a few have been conducted by our own members which proved to be very inspiring and interesting.

In the near future we are going to wash cars and the proceeds are going to a missionary couple working in South America. Next week we are also going canvassing for the Salvation Army.

In our prayer meetings which Hildi persuaded us to have, we have progressed very favourably and each Tuesday morning before school we come together for prayer. We have been richly blessed by these times of communication with Him who helps us run the affairs of our group more efficiently. Since the time that Hildi was here we have continued planning for our Spring Conference to be held at Moose Lake on June 1st, 2nd, and 3^d and have nearly finished our work.

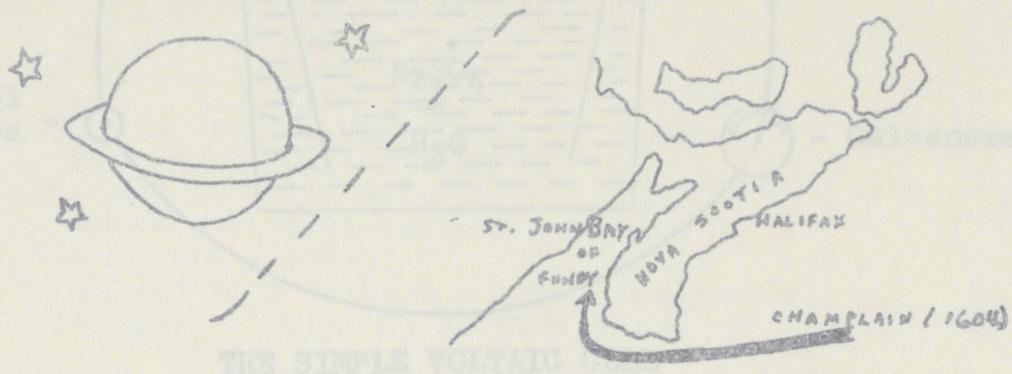
We, the executive, together with our sponsors, Mr. Loewen and Mr. Goertzen, and the students who have attended, have been able to have a time of good Christian fellowship and many have learned "To know Christ better and more effectively to make him known."

--Joe Braun, I.S.C.F. president

Christina Mary Ann * * * Mary Ann Kehler
Christian faith is a grand cathedral, with divinely pictured windows.--Standing without, you can see no glory, nor can imagine any, but standing within every ray of light reveals a harmony of unspeakable splendors.

--Hawthorne

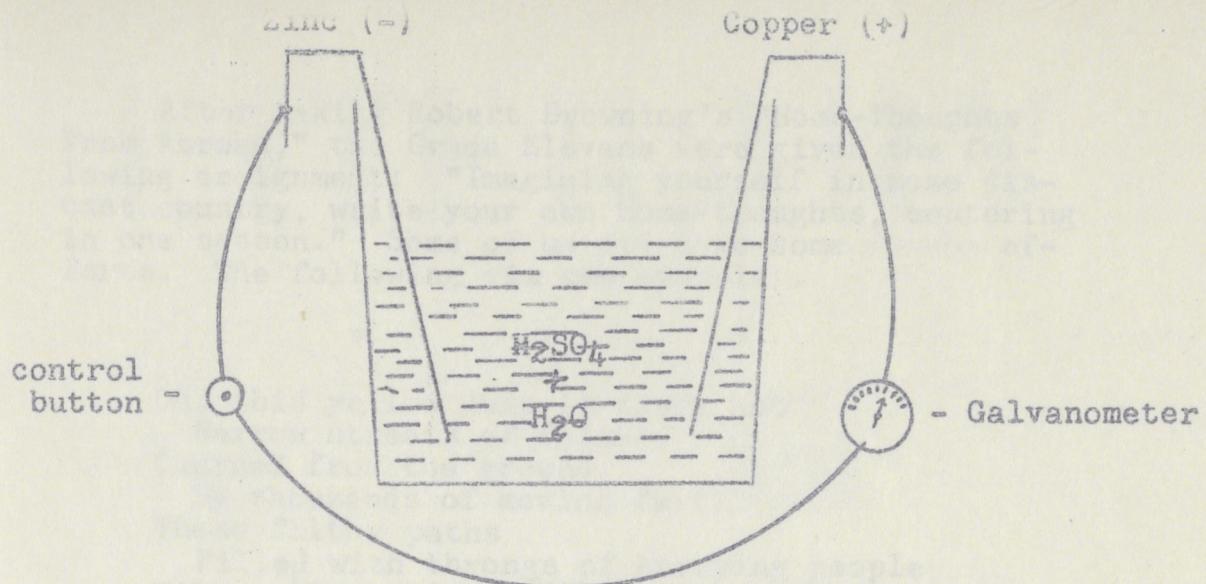
ACADEMIC



TOP MARKS--APRIL EXAMS

NAME _____ SUBJECT _____ MARK _____

GR.	IXA	Margaret Loewen.....	Highest Average.....	92
	IXB	Betty Kehler.....	Highest Average.....	90
X		Gerald Gerbrandt...	Highest Average.....	89
		Gerald Gerbrandt...	Composition.....	81
		Gerald Gerbrandt...	Mathematics.....	96
		Gerald Gerbrandt...	German.....	86
		Gerald Gerbrandt...	Business Practice....	93
		Eric Friesen.....	Literature.....	91
		Eric Friesen.....	Geography.....	95
		Eric Friesen.....	Typing.....	89
		Ken Driedger.....	Science.....	95
		Pete Hiebert.....	Health.....	91
XI		Gloria Friesen.....	Highest Average.....	83
		Gloria Friesen.....	History.....	81
		Gloria Friesen.....	Mathematics.....	89
		Gloria Friesen.....	Physics.....	99
		Magdalene Falk.....	Literature.....	88
		Magdalene Falk.....	Composition.....	72
		Magdalene Falk.....	German.....	92
		Erna Hiebert.....	Chemistry.....	92
			Typing	
XII		Mary Ann Kehler....	Highest Average.....	7?
		Mary Ann Kehler....	English.....	60
		Esther Toews.....		
		Henry Dyck.....	History.....	76
		Helena Dueck.....	Mathematics.....	86
		Abe Wiebe.....	Chemistry.....	87
		Leonard Schieman...	Physics.....	83
		Leonard Schieman...	German.....	81



THE SIMPLE VOLTAIC CELL

The simple voltaic cell consists of:

- (a) an electrolyte--mixture of water and sulphuric acid.
- (b) two different electrodes--one of zinc and one of copper.
- (c) a beaker, some wire, a galvanometer, a control button

When the two electrodes are put into the solution, the solution instantly starts a chemical reaction with the electrodes. Since it reacts more vigorously with the zinc plate than on the copper plate, the zinc plate becomes the negative electrode. When the solution of sulphuric acid (H_2SO_4) and water (H_2O) react upon the zinc plate, it causes the positive ions to leave the zinc plate and to replace the hydrogen ions in the sulphuric acid to form zinc sulphate ($ZnSO_4$). This happens because the sulphur has a greater affinity for the zinc than for the hydrogen. Since like forces repel each other, the positive hydrogen ions are forced to the copper plate by the incoming positive zinc ions. Here they pick up electrons and change into hydrogen atoms which join to form hydrogen molecules. This leaves the copper electrode with a positive charge.

This whole process has caused an oversupply of electrons upon the zinc plate. When the circuit is closed, these electrons flow from this plate, through the wire, to the copper plate, thus neutralizing each plate. An electric current has now been produced since electricity is really only the flow of electrons along some conductor. The flow of electrons will be shown on the galvanometer.

This process will continue until the zinc plate has been completely eaten up or until polarization takes place on the copper electrode. Polarization is the process of hydrogen gas forming an insulation on the copper plate.

After taking Robert Browning's "Home-Thoughts From Abroad," the Grade Elevens were given the following assignment: "Imagining yourself in some distant country, write your own home-thoughts, centering in one season." Some of us did make some ~~some~~ efforts. The following is one example.

* * *

Oh, this yellow dust in these hot
Narrow streets of China--
Churned from the ground
By thousands of moving feet!
These filthy paths
Filled with throngs of hurrying people
With yellow skin and slanted eyes!

How I long for the prairie nights
Of dreamy summertime;
Lying on the cool green grass,
Listening to the crickets' chirp
And to the low croak of the frogs.
Above me, the leaves rustle faintly in the breeze,
The golden moon smiles silently
Down onto the sleeping sights
Of the silent earth
While the bright stars twinkle soft "good-nights."

--Gloria Friesen

* * *

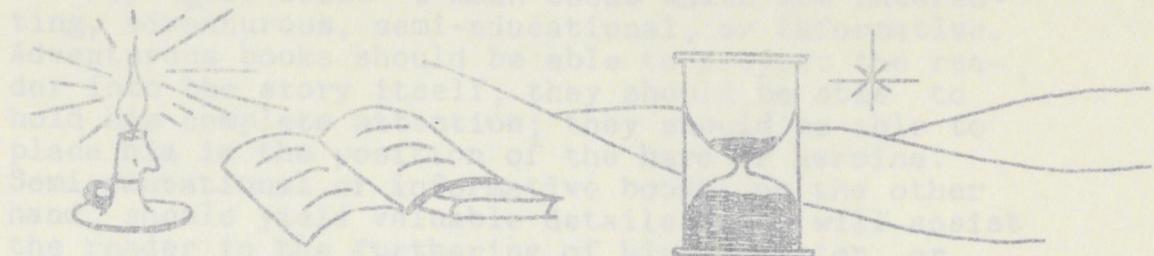
What stubbing, plowing, digging, and harrowing is to land, that thinking, reflecting, examining is to the mind. Each has its proper culture; and as the land that is suffered to lie waste and wild for a long time will be overspread with brushwood, brambles, and thorns, which have neither use nor beauty, so there will not fail to sprout up in a neglected, uncultivated mind, a great number of prejudices and absurd opinions, which owe their origin partly to the soil itself, the passions, and imperfections of the mind of man, and partly to those seeds which chance to be scattered in it by every wind of doctrine which the cunning of statesmen, the singularity of pedants, and the superstition of fools shall raise.

--Berkeley

* * *

--Gloria Friesen, 12
Second prize winner

LITERARY



The Collegian staff thought readers might be interested in writing done by two students who were winners in a Co-op essay contest some time ago. (The essays are, however, not those written for the contest.) First prize was won by Barry Braun.

MODERN INVENTIONS

Many patents today go out to funny inventions. While browsing through a Popular Mechanics magazine one day, I noticed some of these inventions. A gardener had invented a three-pronged rake which could be attached to a shoe. He made it to alleviate his constant backaches caused by stooping. Another invention was a portable mix-master with a radio attached. The patent was refused, however, because every time it was turned on, it blew a fuse.

Since 1957, the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. have been engaged in a race for space. Because of this race, thousands of new inventions have been made. Huge machines have been shrunk down to tiny machines, sometimes no bigger than a pea. Then, these instruments have been shot up into space by huge rockets. Enclosed in metal spheres, they record and send back information about the stratosphere and outer space. Manned flights, too, have become a real thing. Three men have been up already, and the fourth is going up on January 27. Only with thousands of men, billions of dollars, and the ingenuity involved in the making of new inventions, has this been made possible.

Although we have many inventions, the future holds hundreds of new ones just around the corner. No one really knows what will come next. Some day, we may think nothing of going to the moon, the bottom of the ocean, or the center of the earth. It is man's never ending quest for knowledge, that will lure him on to undreamed of heights--to a future that no one can foretell.

--Grant Thiessen, IX
Second prize winner

GOOD BOOKS

By "good books" I mean books which are interesting, adventurous, semi-educational, or informative. Adventurous books should be able to project the reader into the story itself; they should be able to hold his complete attention; they should be able to place him in the position of the hero or heroine. Semi-educational or informative books, on the other hand, should yield valuable details which will assist the reader in the furthering of his education, or simply help him to find information which he needs. These books, which rarely have exciting episodes in them, are much more valuable than adventurous books. All "good books" should be written in a clear, concise fashion, which the reader will readily understand. These books should not be written in a vulgar manner, since the English language is expressive enough without resorting to vulgarity. However, since reader's tastes vary, each one himself will determine, in his own mind, which books are "good books."

--Barry Braun, X
First prize winner

* * * *

SUNSET ON A MIRROR

There before them lay the lake, its waters reflecting the soft colors of the setting sun. The still waters of the lake were a large looking-glass which would occasionally be temporarily shattered by a small gust of wind. Suddenly, a fish jumped to catch a fly for its evening meal. Fishing boats, with their occupants, began to head homeward after a long, futile wait for a nice fish to bite at their line. Then, slowly, a large orange moon began peering over the trees in the background. It cast a shining moonbeam on the beautiful stillness of the lake. Soon all was quiet.

--Elizabeth Friesen, IX

* * *

GRADE TEN "POETRY"

* * *

A LIKENESS

Let not anger make cause for speech,
For angered words are likened unto claws,
Which tear, and ruin, and destroy.

But let the voice incline to gentle speech,
For gentle words are likened unto wings,
Which rise, and soar, and tower.

--Theresa Villeneuve

WELLING

HER ROYAL MAJESTY

Her Majesty, sits on the Throne of the Lion;
Her crown is an ever-faithful flock of ravens.
Her sceptre reaches o'er all the earth,
She is the defender of her people's freedom.
Nay, she sits not vain on the throne,
Not like the growling bear in the East.
Lo, she rules with the help of God
Who guides and strengthens her:
God save the Queen!

--Lloyd Loewen

THEY'RE BLACK, WE'RE WHITE

Inhuman, they cried, outrageous!
Our dignity's offended--they didn't say
But might have said. Yet just look back
To the inhumanities. Just ask the cotton picker,
The weary migrant, dusty tobacco farmer,
And dirty shoe-shine boy. Who kicked at him
Because his fathers lived in Africa's steaming
jungles--
His skin being black? None but him whose
Dignity's offended by Kruschev's "blacker" deeds.

--Eric Friesen

Like the wind-blown chaff,
Lie the victims of this cruel fate.

--Ruth Siemens

REBIRTH

A flaming spear cut the black night.
The earth slowly, silently, swallowed it,
And smiled in satisfaction.
A daily meal, this sun to the earth brings.
When the last rays have died,
The world becomes a tomb.
Another soon takes its place,
One with a broad countenance,
And a shining face.

--Joan Kehler

HELPING

In helping Junior with any kind
Of teen-age problem I'd call it
Wise to rely on an open mind
Also, an open wallet,
When I see him with an open hand.

--Ronald Dyck

BLINDNESS

On and on in darkness and death,
Forgetting the future, remembering the past.
Loving in hatred, laughing in sorrow,
Never forgetting the fate of tomorrow.
These are the people, who live in body
But not in spirit,
They search for life in this mortal earth,
That only passes them by, or drops them in mirth.

--Dolores Heinrichs

FATE

Like a roaring, plunging river
Is the power of the profound dust creation.
Scattered abroad over land and sea
Like the wind-blown chaff,
Lie the victims of this cruel fate.

--Ruth Siemens

LIFE

Life is like a strange pair of cross roads
The one, easy and hazardous
Having two-faced facts
Which lead a person to unwilling sin;
The other, hard and rewarding
Leads a way to the end of the road
Which attributes eternal life.

--Dauna Funk

THE VOICE IN THE NIGHT

One night as I was walking down the street
I longed for something great that I could do.
All that I heard was the breathing of the wind.

A dimly lit face looked up at me;
It was withered, weary, and bore signs of age.
With anxious eyes and pleading face it asked
In sad, hushed tones, "What is life?"
Shamefully I spun around, for I did not know.

--Ken Braun

* * * * *

It has been my object and unquenched desire, to kindle young minds, and to guard them against the temptations of scorers, by showing that the scheme of Christianity, though not discoverable by human reason, is yet in accordance with it; that link follows link by necessary consequence; that religion passes out of the ken of reason only where the eye of reason has reached its own horizon; and that faith is then but its continuation; even as the day softens away into the sweet twilight, and twilight, hushed and breathless, steals into the darkness.

--Coleridge

Faith is not reason's labor, but repose.

--Young

* * *

SPORTS

MEET THE SQUAD

Esther Toews--She has been on the team for four years and this year she was captain of the team. Next year her place as forward will be hard to fill. Esther was also on the debating team. Before basketball games everybody's always yelling: "Where's Esther?"

Muriel Funk--She plays center for the Altona Acettes. Muriel has a low musical voice. She is active in the choir and in group singing. She plays piano and also conducts a junior church choir. Muriel is secretary of the FCYF.

Susie Teichroeb--Susie plays forward. She can be rather serious at times but is usually very affable. They tell us "she's interest in Winnipeg." She was one of the candidates for the Jeunesses Musicale.

Mary Ann Kehler--Mary Ann plays guard on the basketball team. She is one of the top students in the Grade XII classroom and also one of the Grade XII's class reps. After four she works at the drug store.

Janet Epp--Janet also plays guard. She doesn't enjoy school and claims she "just exists--till week-ends" and that she "doesn't like getting mad." Janet sings in the United church choir and is a member of the CGIT.

Elfrieda Teichroeb--This was Elfrieda's first year on the team. She played centre. She is an active council member. If you don't see her, you can hear her--that spirited laugh of hers does carry!

Marjorie Janzen--Marjorie is a very active and energetic lass who plays forward. This is her first year on the squad. She is the social convener for ISCF. Marjorie sings alto in the choir. Besides all her other activities, she does a lot of reading.

Margaret Loewen--Margaret heads her class and also plays guard for the Acettes. This was her first year on the team. She is a class rep for Grade IXA. Margaret won a trophy in the music festival this year.

Gloria Friesen--She plays forward for the Acettes. She's another top student who excels, not only in sports, but also in academics. She can be very convincing when she runs herself down. Lately, she has fallen in love with Physics.

Earl Dick--Earl has been the star for the Altona Aces for the last few years. His 6'4" frame has helped him to become one of the star players in the league. This year he was tied for second place in the league scoring race. He set an individual scoring mark when he scored thirty-nine points in one game against Lowe Farm.

Gerald Gerbrandt--Gerald patrolled right wing for the Aces and did a fine job in his first year as a regular. Right now he is in the process of perfecting his hook-shot which should make him doubly dangerous next year.

Barry Braun--Barry was the star guard on the Altona Aces this year. He did an extremely good job playing this position, being the second highest scorer on the team and setting up the forwards for many other points. He should be one of the best guards in the league in the years to come.

Joe Braun--Joe missed the first couple of games of the season, but then came in to take over as first string left wing. His rebounding helped to take some of the load off Earl's shoulders. He has one of the smoothest jump-shots on the team, which should help him score a lot of points.

Dennis Siemers--This was Dennis's first year on the team and he showed that he has a lot of potential for the years to come. He scored his first points on a jump-shot in Morden and he came back very happy.

Henry Zacharias--Henry is one of the two grade twelve students on our team. He played left guard and scored quite a few points on his long shots, in addition to helping set up Earl for many of his baskets.

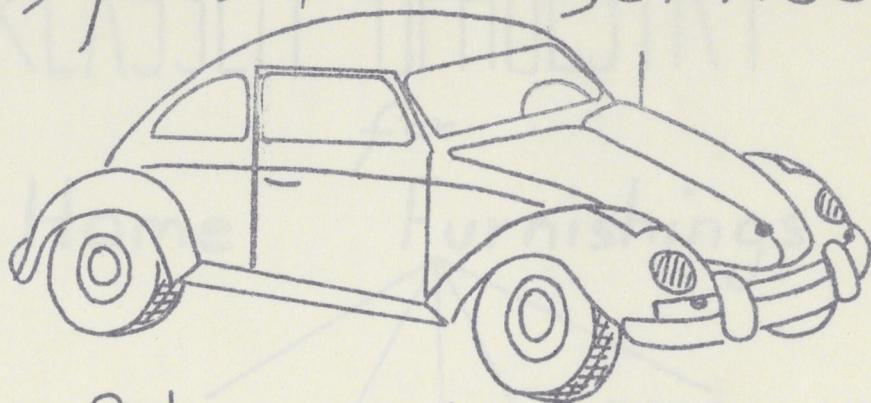
Ken Driedger--"Moose" alternates between left wing, right wing, centre, and even played guard once. He is 6'1" which makes him the second tallest player on the team. In addition, he is known for his characteristic of moving quickly only when he positively has to.

John Zacharias--This was also John's first year on the team. At 5'5" he is the smallest member of the squad. During the tournament, in a game against Winkler, he won the spectator's approval with his play against the much taller opposition.

Walter Reimer--Walter, a first year member, scored his first point against Winkler on a foul shot. He took his shot, the ball went through the hoop and his face lit up. At that moment he was the happiest member of the team.

The coaches of the Altona Collegiate boy's team were Mr. Jim Hamm and Mr. John Friesen. Both are teachers in Altona, Mr. Friesen teaching Grade 7 and Mr. Hamm teaching Grade 5. They both spent quite a bit of time trying to teach us basketball.

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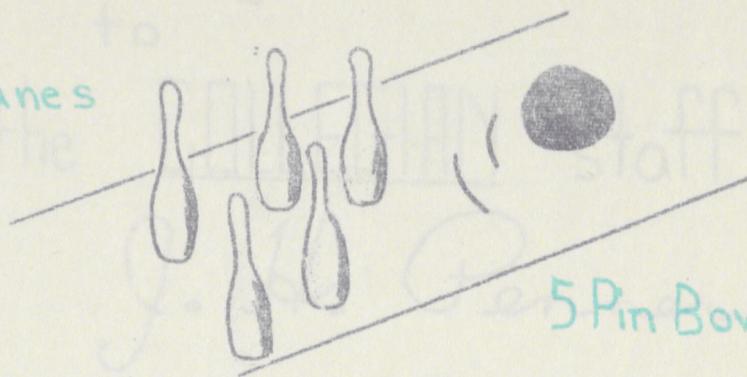
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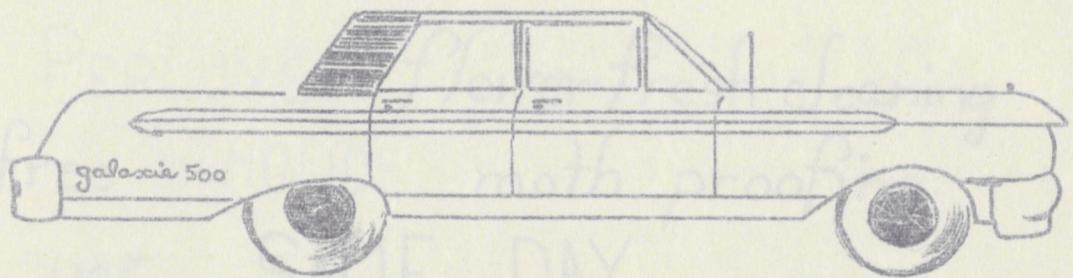


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BEHIND THE SCENES

Fingers too weak to type, minds too exhausted to think, conscience holding text books accusingly before tired eyes--but still--Duty calls.

"Are we having another paper, Dolly?"

"No!"

"Oh." Silence. "But we must!"

Well. We'll call a meeting for 12:45.

12:45. "Nobody here yet?"

"Yes, Eric's here--he remembered."

"Where's Carol?"

"She went uptown."

"Oh."

12:50. Here comes Carol now. They say Pete's on the way too.

Is Wally here today? Are you sure Bev was in chapel?

1:00--"We're not having a meeting now."

"Are we having another paper?"--Pauses--then Duty's answer, "Yes."

This one will be much better. We'll have more for less. Yes that's it--exactly! More quality--less quantity. We'll choose only dependable people for write-ups.....

Weeks pass. More haphazard plans.

"How are we going to work this?"

"I'm sure I don't know.--Ask Mr. Br...." voice trails away. Maybe we shouldn't have another paper...."

Nights when "sore labor's bath" is lost. Miasmic air. Nightmares.

Fade in...."What am I bid for this fine, young Collegian?"..... Strange noises. Then: "Going, going,....." Fade out

Rough, exhilarating spring breezes--tugging, calling: "Come away from these dull, dizzy heights." Roaming aimlessly along the railroad track. Warm, fragrant grass under bare feet. Meadow larks rippling their liquid notes of farewell. Killdeers, screaming mockingly above parched minds.

Duty: "Come, come, girls--where's the old Underwood....."

Work on it hard.....make it good..... throw it in the garbage when it's done.

